

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2666
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2005
MEDICAL FACILITIES TO LABOURERS
Sippiparai Shri A. Ravichandran

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of medical facilities available for fire works units and match units labourers in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) whether several labourers have lost their lives owing to lack of modern medical facilities in the hospitals;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the hospitals which are facing problem of shortage of medicines and staff as well as the infrastructure and the steps taken or likely to be taken by the Government for the modernization of these hospitals during the last one year?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO)

- (a): The medical facilities provided by ESI Corporation and DG Labour Welfare Ministry of Labour are not specific to fire works and match units labourers.
- (b): No such incidence has come to the notice.
- (c): Does not arise in view of (b) above.
- (d): The following steps have been taken for improvement/modernization of services by the ESI Corporation:-
To monitor the functioning of the Schemes regular inspections are taken up through the Nodal Officers, Medical Referees, SSMCs/SMCs, Regional Directors, Officers of the Headquarters' Office and Ministry etc. and remedial actions are taken on their observations. A sub-committee of the Corporation known as General purpose Medical Sub-Committee comprising of representatives of employees visit the States to supervise and monitor the functioning of the Scheme at least once or twice in a year. Recommendations and observations of this committee are placed before the members of ESI Corporation. In order to facilitate the flow of funds to the State Governments the Scheme of revolving fund, which was initially for reimbursement of super speciality treatment, has now been expanded to drugs and dressings and repair & maintenance of equipments etc. Hospital vigilance committees have been constituted for each hospital with the respective employees, employers and medical profession to monitor the activities of the hospitals in a participative way. To ensure continuing human resource development and regular training 0.5% of the budget has been earmarked over and above the ceiling for the training. The ceiling on medical care reimbursement to the State Governments has been increased to Rs.900 per Insured Person family unit w.e.f. 01.04.2005. The ceiling on administrative expenses is Rs.540 and other expenses Rs.360. The sub-ceiling has been removed on the demand of the State Governments. Modern Equipments worth Rs.12.61 lacs have been sanctioned for ESI Hospitals of Tamil Nadu on the request of State Government during the year 2004-2005.